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LB 401

Senator Witek, who is a cosponsor of this bill and has long gone home, but brought up, thought I was threatening. So I want to make it clear that I'm not threatening anyone. But the days are waning. The agenda is pretty well set for the rest of the week. This bill will probably not make it back to the agenda until the beginning of next week. It will be one of the lone General File priority bills, major proposals still sitting on General File. I think it's important for those of us that want to see an income tax bill as part of the overall deliberations will...to get this bill advanced today. So make your policy arguments but then I hope regardless of the way your views go on this measure, I hope you will advance the bill. My concern is with the limited numbers we have here today, including three cosponsors of the bill being gone at this point, that we will melt down on the Beutler amendment. The Beutler amendment with 33 people here may not have the votes to get adopted. My fear is then those of you who don't like the Beutler amendment will feel good about having defeated the Beutler amendment but you turn around, you have to pull 25 out of 33. It's not your fault those of you, the 33 that were here, certainly it's not your fault but that's the reality of what we have. So keep those things in mind. My desire is to see the bill advance and I know it's tough, Senator Beutler, to get your amendment adopted with only 33 people here. I know it's tough then to get the bill advanced with only 33 people here. Those are the cards we're dealt and this time in the session you have to play the cards you're dealt.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, I've said a lot today on two bills and talked about some other things along the way. But now we're at the point where it's not necessary for me to say much of anything. Without the Beutler amendment, there's no way I'm going to support this bill. And with the Beutler amendment, I'm against the bill as far as passing it. So those who think that with this miscalculation that was made by that board we should base a perpetual program of state spending, I say that's unwise, very unwise. My understanding was that the Beutler amendment would be a part of that first offering, but since it was not, it should be adopted now. If it is not, I would hope all those senators who told me that they would not support the bill